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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,931	10/18/2004	Kenji Narumi	10873.1565USWO	2525

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EXAMINER

PHAM, VAN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2627

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Election/Restriction

1. Claims 53-54 and 57-59 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 8/04/2006.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 6, 9, 15, 20, 46 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 6, line 1, should be changed “;” to --,--.

Claim 9, line 1, should be changed “;” to --,--.

Claim 15, line 2, should be changed “;” to --,--.

Claim 20, line 11, should be changed “;” to --,--.

Claim 46, line 1, should be changed “;” to --,--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 23, 25-27, 31-32, 35, 49 and 51-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Masui Narihiro (JP 5234079).

Regarding claim 1, Masui Narihiro, see Figs. 1-3 and abstract, discloses an optical information recording method for recording information onto an optical information recording medium, the method comprising: an identification step of identifying an information recording condition or information recording characteristics of the optical information recording medium (see abstract and Figs. 1-3, and [0037]-[0042]); and a recording pulse correction step of correcting a recording pulse position, in order to form a recording mark in a predetermined position (see Figs. 1-3, element 2 in Figs. 2); wherein in the recording pulse correction step, correction accuracy of the recording pulse position is changed depending on the information recording conditions or the information recording characteristics that were identified in the identification step (see Figs. 1-3 and [0037]-[0043]).

Regarding claim 5, see Figs. 1-3, 6, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 1, wherein an optical information recording medium that contains a control track region is used as the optical information recording medium (see Figs. 1) , the identification step further comprising: an identifier detection step of reproducing information from the control track region (see Figs. 1, 3, 6), and detecting an identifier that represents the information recording conditions or information recording characteristics of the optical information recording medium (see Fig. 2), from the information that is reproduced; wherein in the recording pulse correction step (see Figs. 2, element 2), the correction accuracy of the recording pulse position is differentiated according to the information recording conditions or information recording characteristics that are represented by the identifier detected in the identifier detection step (see Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 6, see Figs. 1-3, 6, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 5, wherein the identifier that is detected in the identifier detection step is an identifier that represents a recording density of the optical information recording medium (see Fig. 1-3).

Regarding claim 9, see Figs. 1-3, 6, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 5, wherein the identifier that is detected in the identifier detection step is an identifier that represents a linear recording velocity of the optical information recording medium.

Regarding claim 23, see Figs. 1, 3, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 1, wherein a process of recording onto the optical information recording medium is a mark edge recording process.

Regarding claim 25, see Figs. 1-3, 6, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 1, wherein in the recording pulse correction step, the recording pulse position is corrected by changing a forward edge position of a front end pulse and a rear edge position of a back end pulse (see [0019]-[0033]).

Regarding claim 26, see Figs. 1-3, 6, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 1, wherein in the recording pulse correction step, the recording pulse position is corrected by changing the actual position of a front end pulse and a back end pulse (see rejection above of claim 25).

Regarding claim 27, see rejection above of claim 1.

Regarding claim 31, see rejection above of claim 5.

Regarding claim 32, see rejection above of claim 9.

Regarding claim 35, see rejection above of claim 6.

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Regarding claim 49, see rejection above of claim 23.

Regarding claim 51, see rejection above of claim 25.

Regarding claim 52, see rejection above of claim 26.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 15-20 and 41-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masui Narihiro (JP 5234079) in view of Seo (US 6,661,759).

Regarding claim 15, Masui discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 1, wherein in the recording pulse correction step (see Figs. 1-3), the recording pulse position is corrected amount of the recording pulse position is prescribed according to the correction accuracy (see [0043]).

Seo, see Fig. 7, discloses recording pulse position is using a correction table in which a correction amount of the recording pulse position is prescribed according to the correction accuracy (see cols. 1-3).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide recording pulse position is using a correction table in Masui as suggested by Seo, the motivation being in order to determine the correlativity between the length of a mark currently being recorded and the lengths of leading/trailing spaces (see Seo abstract).

Regarding claim 16, the combination of Masui and Seo, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 15, wherein in the recording pulse correction step, a correction table is used in which the number of elements that prescribe the correction amount of the recording pulse position is greater when the correction accuracy is high than when the correction accuracy is low (see Seo Figs. 6-9, and cols. 14-15).

Regarding claim 17, the combination of Masui and Seo, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 16, wherein in the recording pulse correction step, the number of elements in the correction table is substantially reduced when the recording accuracy is low, by setting the correction amount that is prescribed by a predetermined number of elements from among the plurality of elements contained in the correction table when the correction accuracy is high to be mutually equivalent (see Figs. 3, 6-9 and cols. 14-15).

Regarding claim 18, the combination of Masui and Seo, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 15, the method further comprising: a step of generating the correction table by setting the value of the elements in accordance with the correction accuracy from the number of table elements and the correction resolution that are determined in advance (see Seo Table 1 and figs. 7-9 and col. 13-15).

Regarding claim 19, the combination of Masui and Seo, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 15, wherein in the recording pulse correction step, one of the plurality of correction tables whose number of elements is mutually different, and which is determined in advance according to the correction accuracy, is selected and used (see Seo Table 1 and figs. 7-9 and col. 13-15).

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Masui and Seo, discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 19, wherein the plurality of correction tables that have different numbers of elements comprise: at least two selected from: (a) a correction table that prescribes uniform values that do not depend on the recording code length as the correction amount; (b) a correction table that prescribes values that depend on the recording code length as the correction amount; (c) a correction table that prescribes values that depend on a combination of the recording code length and the pre-code length and on a combination of the recording code length and the post-code length (see Seo Figs. 6-7 and cols. 1-4).

Regarding claims 41-46, see rejection above of claims 15-20, respectively.

7. Claims 24 and 50 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masui Narihiro (JP 5234079) in view of Muritsugu et al. (US 5,3437,505).

Regarding claim 24, Masui discloses the optical information recording method according to claim 1, wherein a process of recording onto the optical information-recording medium is a pulse position recording process.

Moritsugu discloses a process of recording onto the optical information-recording medium is a mark position recording process (see Fig. 5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a process of recording onto the optical information-recording medium is a mark position recording process in Masui as suggested by Moritsugu, the motivation being in order to remove thermal shift and pattern shift during the recording process (see Seo col. 4, lines 33-46).

Regarding claim 50, see rejection above of claim 24.

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Cited References

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

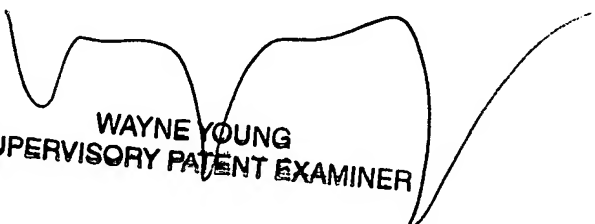
The cited references relate to optical recording medium having an area for recording a plurality of recording/reproducing conditions to be used in recording/reproduction apparatus and recording/reproduction method and apparatus thereof; and optical information recording medium and optical information recording and reproducing apparatus.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN T. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-7590. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VP


WAYNE YOUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER